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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
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**DISTRICT OF NEVADA**  
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5 EDDIE THOMAS,  
6 Plaintiff,  
7 v.  
8 DR. MARKS, et al.,  
9 Defendants.

Case No. 3:23-cv-00131-ART-CLB

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**ORDER SETTING MANDATORY  
CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE  
AND EXCHANGE OF INITIAL  
DISCLOSURES**

12 The Court has now screened Plaintiff's complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §  
13 1915A(a) and ordered the case to proceed. In order to ensure the just, speedy, and  
14 cost-effective resolution of this action, the court orders: (1) the parties to exchange initial  
15 disclosures, as described below; and (2) the parties attend a mandatory case  
16 management conference to be held on **Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.**, as  
17 describe more fully below.

18 Following the mandatory conference, the court will issue a full scheduling order,  
19 setting out additional dates related to discovery and the litigation. Aside from the initial  
20 disclosures required by this order, no other discovery may proceed until the court enters  
21 a full scheduling order following the mandatory scheduling conference.

1     **I. INITIAL DISCLOSURES**

2         Notwithstanding Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 26(a)(1)(B), the court finds that  
3 initial disclosures would be helpful in managing this action under Federal Rule of Civil  
4 Procedure 16, taking into account the extent of prisoner litigation in this district, the desire  
5 to manage those cases efficiently, the desire to secure the just, speedy, and inexpensive  
6 determination of this case, the importance of the issues at stake, the parties' relative  
7 access to relevant information, the parties' resources, the importance of discovery in  
8 resolving issues, and the value of initial disclosure of information obtained through the  
9 administrative grievance process.<sup>1</sup> Accordingly, all parties are hereby ordered to provide  
10 initial disclosures with the following information:<sup>2</sup>

11           A.      The name and, if known, the address and telephone number of each  
12 individual likely to have discoverable information—along with the subjects of that  
13 information—that the disclosing party may use to support its claims or defenses, unless  
14 the use would be solely for impeachment.

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18           <sup>1</sup> Rule 26, Advisory Committee Note, 2000 Amendments ("[T]he court can  
19 order exchange of similar information in managing the action under Rule 16."). Also  
20 note Rule 26, Advisory Committee Note, 1993 Amendment "The enumeration in Rule  
21 26(a) of items to be disclosed does not prevent a court from requiring by order or local  
rule that the parties disclose additional information without a discovery request."

22           <sup>2</sup> These disclosures must be mailed to the other parties in the case, or their  
23 attorneys, if they are represented by counsel. These disclosures should not be filed  
with the court.

1       1. The Parties may withhold confidential sensitive information  
2 regarding the identity or contact information of such individuals so long as they provide  
3 a method of identifying and contacting such individuals, such as through counsel.

4       B. A copy—or a description by category and location—of all documents,  
5 electronically stored information, and tangible things that the disclosing party has in its  
6 possession, custody, or control and may use to support its claims or defenses, unless  
7 the use would be solely for impeachment.

8       1. In the context of Rule 26, "[c]ontrol is defined as the legal right to  
9 obtain documents upon demand." *United States v. Int'l Union of Petroleum & Indus.*  
10 *Workers, AFL-CIO*, 870 F.2d 1450, 1452 (9th Cir. 1989).

11       2. To the extent Defendant(s) intend to rely on an affirmative defense  
12 based on a failure to exhaust administrative remedies, Defendant(s) shall provide to  
13 Plaintiff all documents Defendants intend to use to support that defense.

14 **II. MANDATORY CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE**

15       A mandatory case management conference will be held on **April 17, 2024, at 9:00**  
16 **a.m.** Lead defense counsel shall dial **877-336-1829** to be connected into the courtroom  
17 for this hearing. The **access code** is **2809752** and the **security code** is **23131**. In  
18 addition, counsel for the defendant shall make the necessary arrangements for the  
19 Plaintiff's telephonic appearance and shall provide the Courtroom Deputy at  
20 [lisa.mann@nvd.uscourts.gov](mailto:lisa.mann@nvd.uscourts.gov) with the telephone number at which the Plaintiff can be  
21 reached for this mandatory case management conference. The parties should be  
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1 available for one hour, although the case management conference will likely take less  
2 time. The parties shall be prepared to informally discuss the following issues:

- 3 A. A brief statement of the parties' claims and/or defenses;
- 4 B. Confirmation that initial disclosures (described above) have been provided,  
and any justification for withholding any portion of that information;
- 5 C. The location of potentially relevant documents;
- 6 D. Any deficiency or problems in the other party's initial disclosures;
- 7 E. Discovery each party intends to take, if any, in addition to the discovery  
ordered above;
- 8 F. A timeline for the scheduling of discovery;
- 9 G. Any options or methods for the streamlining discovery;
- 10 H. Whether any party intends to challenge the issue of exhaustion;
- 11 I. Whether any party intends to use expert witnesses;
- 12 J. Whether each party would consent to magistrate judge jurisdiction; and,
- 13 K. Any immediate or ongoing issues or requests for injunctive relief regarding  
current incarceration that could require the court's immediate attention.

17 **III. CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE STATEMENTS**

18 At least one-week in advance of the case management conference, each party  
19 shall file a case management conference statement. The case management conference  
20 statement must address the issues listed above, as well as any other issues that the  
21 parties believe would assist in the scheduling of the case. The statement should include  
22 the date that initial disclosures were served and any deficiencies in either party's  
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1 disclosures. The statement must not exceed five (5) pages in length and no exhibits or  
2 attachments should be included.

3 **IV. SCHEDULING ORDER**

4 Following the case management conference, the court will issue a Scheduling  
5 Order and Discovery Plan with the benefit of the input of the parties. Once issued, the  
6 dates in the Scheduling Order and Discovery Plan shall be firm and no extension shall  
7 be given without permission from the court based on good cause shown.

8 DATED: March 29, 2024

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11 CARLA BALDWIN  
12 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE